

A. A. P. to W. H. Hallock  
Mar. 18. 1844.

Copy

Boston March 18. 1844.

Mr Hallock,

Dear Sir,

I handed your letter ~~to me~~  
respecting my book on the Sabbath to ~~Dr~~<sup>Mr</sup> L<sup>r</sup> King,  
who owns the copy-right & on whose behalf as well as  
my own I wrote you ~~before~~. I suppose he has answered  
it, so far as the terms on which he will sell the plates  
are concerned, before this.

I was not aware before you wrote me, that there  
was anything in the book that could give "unnecessary  
offense" at the South." I have looked it over hastily since  
& am not now satisfied what passages you can  
refer to. I will be much obliged if you will point  
them out to me.

If you & Mr. King agree on the price of the plates  
or the work will of course be yours, & you will be at  
liberty, on your own responsibility, to make any  
changes in it you think desirable. I will cheerfully  
aid you, if desired, in making such changes as you  
may suggest, so far as I think it right to do so. In  
regard to any changes to humor slaveholders I  
can make none, so far as I am at present advised.  
If there are passages in the book which have escaped  
my notice that are clearly exceptionable, of course, I  
shall not object to changing them. I am not at present  
aware that there are any such. I have no doubt  
there are one or two passages from which slaveholders

respecting the observance of the Sabbath on Canals & Railways. I am  
yours very truly, A. A. Phelps.



would dissent. They are not however bugged in,  
but come in ~~most~~ naturally & incidentally to the  
points before me. In the same way, there are allusions  
& <sup>remarks</sup> ~~representations~~ that conflict with the <sup>opinions</sup> ~~notions~~ & the  
Customs of Unitarians, Friends, liquor-dealers, gamblers,  
wine-bibbers &c. &c. ~~And~~ <sup>Now</sup> while I would not give un-  
necessary offense to any class of <sup>errorists or</sup> sinners, I confess  
I see no reason why Slaveholders should ~~be treated~~  
~~naturally~~ be any more exempt from the ~~proper~~ <sup>natural</sup> &  
righteous allusions of truth than others. I confess ~~too~~  
I was grieved at the suggestions of your letter in the  
case. What, shall the American Tract Society, that does  
not hesitate to print & circulate tracts books by the  
million, directly assailing Sabbath-breaking, Intemperance,  
Licentiousness, Gambling, <sup>theiving</sup> Lying, Swearing, Female-dress, &c. &c.  
not dare even an incidental yet truthful allusion <sup>condemnatory of</sup> Slavery,  
lest ~~forwards~~ the wrongdoers should be offended? Will you do  
this, & yet on the cover of your "Family Christian Almanac"  
for the United States for 1843, <sup>"for use in every part of the country,"</sup> copy an extract from the  
London Mor. Chron. declaring that the "millions" of England  
are "condemned to a state worse than slavery," when in  
truth, bad as their condition is, it does not begin to  
equal it? ~~And~~ Are you thus <sup>to be</sup> ~~united~~ the patrons & the  
protectors of American Slavery - to shield it ~~from observation~~  
~~from view~~ ~~from exposure~~ ~~by its coincidence with the state of~~  
~~its own incidental allusion to the same time to set~~  
~~it off~~ from even incidental allusion & to set off the condi-  
tion of the English operative in contrast with it, as a worse  
condition? Really, brother, I am <sup>grieved</sup> amazed; & I do hope, that



So far as this turning aside from the free out-spoken utterance of truth on this subject is concerned, in deference to Southern Oppressors, the American Tract Society will not follow in ~~the~~ footsteps of the mercenary, & unmanly, not to say unchristian Harpers.

I speak thus freely, not because my book has furnished the occasion, ~~for it~~, but because <sup>as an indication of your general policy,</sup> I think the case demands it. You may not be aware of it, but I ~~can~~ assure you, ~~that~~ there are many minds in the community, that have been for a long time asking themselves <sup>others</sup> the question, why has the Am. Tract Society no books & no tracts on <sup>condemnatory</sup> ~~the subject~~ of oppression, & especially that worst form of it, American Slavery, while it has tracts & books on almost or quite every other form of sin. So far as such individuals ~~persons~~ have spoken to me on the subject, & many have done it - one within a week, & with no knowledge of what you wrote respecting my book. I have said, Wait, wait, ~~as much as we can do to keep to our main work, let us hope for general mind of the Country comes right, its publications the best & avoid collision with other benevolent societies as long will come right, let us keep to our main work, & I have~~ <sup>as far as we can, & I have</sup> generally been able to secure a concurrence of opinion with myself. I am quite sure however that if it were generally known that you are careful to expurgate your works & to print only ~~those~~ <sup>what</sup> ~~that~~ will not offend the South, you would soon have a storm about you ~~in~~ more serious than you have probably any conception of.

Excuse the frankness with which I have <sup>written</sup> ~~spoken~~. Should you arrange the matter with King, I think it would be well to add to the work some extracts with which I can furnish you from a second Parliamentary Inquiry - an inquiry



respecting the observance of the Sabbath on Canals & Railways